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SENATE BILL 552

48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2007

INTRODUCED BY

Cynthia Nava

FOR THE LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION; ENACTING THE MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE
EDUCATION ACT; CREATING THE MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE BUREAU IN
THE PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT; CREATING AN ADVISORY COUNCIL;
CREATING A FUND; MAKING APPROPRIATIONS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. A new section of the Public School Code is
enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] SHORT TITLE.--This act may be cited as the
"Mathematics and Science Education Act"."

Section 2. A new section of the Public School Code is
enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Mathematics
and Science Education Act:

A. "bureau" means the mathematics and science

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1 bureau;

2 B. "chief" means the chief of the bureau; and

3 C. "council" means the mathematics and science
4 advisory council."

5 Section 3. A new section of the Public School Code is
6 enacted to read:

7 "[NEW MATERIAL] BUREAU CREATED--DUTIES.--

8 A. The "mathematics and science bureau" is created
9 in the department. The secretary shall appoint the chief as
10 provided in the Public Education Department Act.

11 B. The bureau shall:

12 (1) administer the provisions of the
13 Mathematics and Science Education Act;

14 (2) provide staff support for and coordinate
15 the activities of the council;

16 (3) work with the council to develop a
17 statewide strategic plan for mathematics and science education
18 in the public schools and coordinate education activities with
19 other state agencies, the federal government, business
20 consortia and public or private organizations or other persons;

21 (4) ensure that school districts' plans
22 include goals for improving mathematics and science education
23 aligned to the department's strategic plan;

24 (5) recommend funding mechanisms that support
25 the improvement of mathematics and science education in the

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1 state, including web-based mathematics and science curricula
2 mentoring and web-based homework assistance;

3 (6) promote partnerships among public schools,
4 higher education institutions, government, business and
5 educational and community organizations to improve the
6 mathematics and science education in the state;

7 (7) develop and evaluate curricula,
8 instructional programs and professional development programs in
9 mathematics and science aligned with state academic content and
10 performance standards; and

11 (8) assess the outcomes of efforts to improve
12 mathematics and science education using existing data."

13 Section 4. A new section of the Public School Code is
14 enacted to read:

15 "[NEW MATERIAL] MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE ADVISORY COUNCIL--
16 CREATED--MEMBERS--TERMS--VACANCIES.--

17 A. The "mathematics and science advisory council"
18 is created, composed of twelve members. Members of the council
19 shall be appointed by the secretary for staggered terms of four
20 years; provided that for the initial appointments, four members
21 shall be appointed for two years, four members shall be
22 appointed for three years and four members shall be appointed
23 for four years. Members shall serve until their successors
24 have been appointed and qualified. A vacancy shall be filled
25 by appointment by the secretary for the unexpired term.

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1 B. Using a statewide application process, the
2 secretary shall appoint members from throughout the state so as
3 to ensure representation of the state's demographics, including
4 geographic distribution, gender and ethnic diversity and as
5 follows:

6 (1) four members from public schools,
7 including at least two mathematics and science teachers and a
8 school district administrator with experience in mathematics
9 and science curricula;

10 (2) three members from public post-secondary
11 educational institutions with expertise in mathematics or
12 science education;

13 (3) four members from the private sector,
14 including the national laboratories, museums and science- and
15 engineering-based businesses; and

16 (4) one member who represents the New Mexico
17 partnership for mathematics and science education.

18 C. Members of the council shall elect a chair from
19 among the membership. The council shall meet at the call of
20 the chair not less than quarterly.

21 D. Members of the council are entitled to receive
22 per diem and mileage pursuant to the provisions of the Per Diem
23 and Mileage Act but shall receive no other compensation,
24 perquisite or allowance."

25 Section 5. A new section of the Public School Code is
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1 enacted to read:

2 "[NEW MATERIAL] COUNCIL DUTIES.--The council shall:

3 A. advise the bureau on implementation of the
4 bureau's duties pursuant to the Mathematics and Science
5 Education Act;

6 B. make recommendations to the bureau and the
7 department regarding the statewide strategic plan for improving
8 mathematics and science education and advise on its
9 implementation and incorporation into the department's
10 five-year strategic plan for public elementary and secondary
11 education in the state;

12 C. advise the bureau, the department and the
13 legislature regarding appropriations for mathematics and
14 science education, administration, resources and services,
15 including programs for public school students and staff;

16 D. work with the bureau to determine the need for
17 improvement in mathematics and science achievement of public
18 school students and make recommendations to the department on
19 how to meet these needs; and

20 E. produce an annual report on public elementary
21 and secondary mathematics and science student achievement to be
22 submitted to the department, the governor and the legislature
23 no later than November 30 of each year."

24 Section 6. A new section of the Public School Code is
25 enacted to read:

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1 "[NEW MATERIAL] MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE PROFICIENCY

2 FUND--CREATED--PURPOSE--ANNUAL REPORTS.--

3 A. The "mathematics and science proficiency fund"
4 is created as a nonreverting fund in the state treasury. The
5 fund consists of appropriations, gifts, grants, donations and
6 income from investment of the fund. Disbursements from the
7 fund shall be made by warrant of the secretary of finance and
8 administration pursuant to vouchers signed by the secretary of
9 public education or the secretary's authorized representative.

10 B. The fund shall be administered by the
11 department, and money in the fund is appropriated to the
12 department to provide awards to public schools, school
13 districts, public post-secondary educational institutions and
14 persons that implement innovative, research-based mathematics
15 and science curricula and professional development programs for
16 public school students. The department shall promulgate rules
17 for the application and award of money from the fund, including
18 criteria to evaluate innovative, research-based mathematics and
19 science programs and professional development programs.

20 C. Each award recipient shall provide an annual
21 report to the bureau that includes a detailed budget report, a
22 description of the services provided and documented evidence of
23 the stated outcomes of the program funded by the mathematics
24 and science proficiency fund and that provides other
25 information requested by the bureau."

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1 Section 7. APPROPRIATIONS.--

2 A. Three million dollars (\$3,000,000) is
3 appropriated from the general fund to the mathematics and
4 science proficiency fund for expenditure in fiscal year 2008
5 and subsequent fiscal years to fund summer mathematics, science
6 and reading institutes to increase the skills of public school
7 mathematics and science instructors and include an emphasis on
8 reading instruction in mathematics and science courses. Any
9 unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of a
10 fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund.

11 B. The following amounts are appropriated from the
12 general fund to the following agencies for the following
13 purposes for expenditure in fiscal year 2008, and any
14 unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of
15 fiscal year 2008 shall revert to the general fund:

16 (1) to the public education department:
17 (a) one hundred twenty thousand dollars
18 (\$120,000) to work with national laboratories and other federal
19 science-related facilities and science and technology
20 businesses to facilitate creation of internships for high
21 school students and to help place student interns; and

22 (b) five hundred thousand dollars
23 (\$500,000) to work with the institutions of higher education
24 and the mathematics and science advisory council to increase
25 the rigor of mathematics and science courses in teacher

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1 preparation programs; and
2 (2) to the state parks division of the energy,
3 minerals and natural resources department, five hundred
4 thousand dollars (\$500,000) to support a statewide outdoor
5 classroom program.